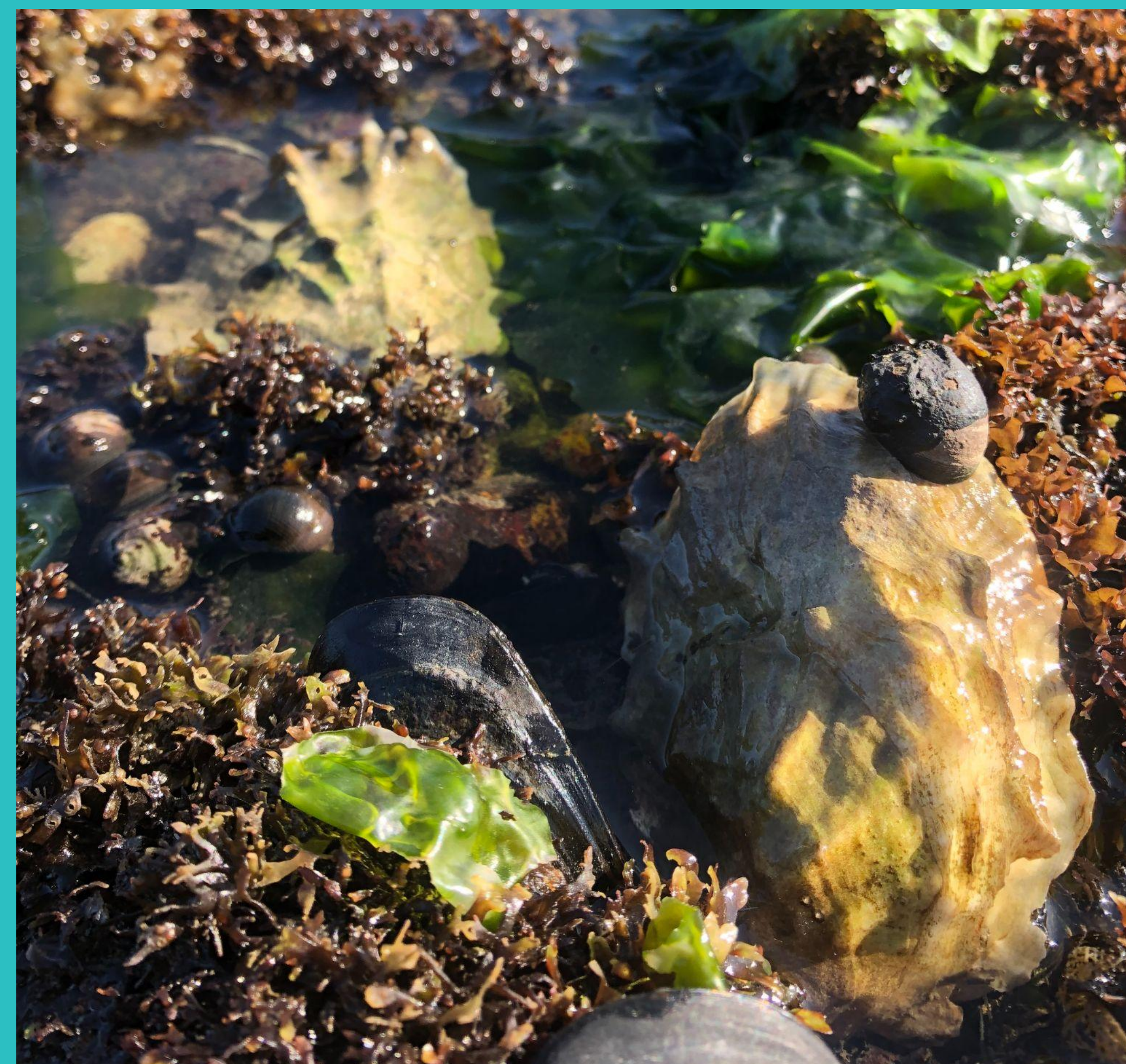


# Oyster restoration provides new habitat and better water quality



During the summers of 2018 and 2019 the Massachusetts Oyster Project raised **220,000 oysters** in upweller systems located in Gloucester and Marblehead, engaging youth groups and the public in the process.



Once abundant along the Massachusetts coast, oysters play a key role in maintaining a healthy coastal ecosystem. Oysters form dense reefs as they grow, providing critical habitat for other species. As they feed, oysters can filter up to 50 gallons of water a day, improving water quality.

In the fall we released the young oysters into estuaries in Ipswich and Gloucester, and then watched over the following years to see how they grew and took hold.

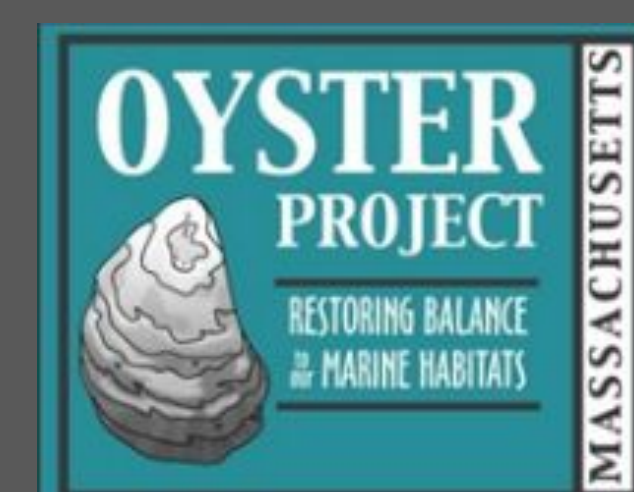


## Why it Matters

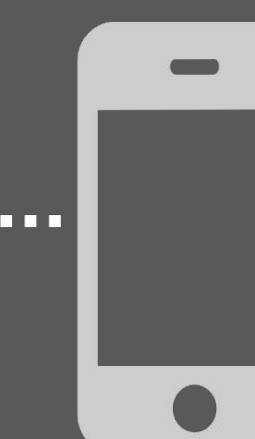
Oysters help clean coastal waters, stabilize shorelines, provide habitat, and reduce nitrogen pollution. They could help bring balance to coastal ecosystems during a changing climate.

## What You Can Do

If you're on Cape Cod or the Islands, look for a shell recycling program near you!



Andrew Hultin  
Massachusetts Oyster Project



Scan for more  
from the Mass.  
Oyster Project

